A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, May 15. 1711.

I Think a Cock a very Saucy, Insolent Fellow, that can never get a little the better of his Enemy, but immediately he claps his Wings and crows —— And very often his Victorious Worship finds himself attack'd again by his Enemy, who was all that while but recovering his Breath — And then my Gentleman, who spent some of his Breath in Crowing, is beaten, and runs away.

This has been too apparently the Case of some People in their late Attacks upon the Whigs in the City, I mean as it relates to the Bank, *East India* Company, &c. and tho' I would not have the one think, that because they have Money they must therefore Reign; yet I would advise the other Gentlemen, that if ever they think to Attack the Whigs with Success, they should do it any where, rather than where the Affair of Money is in the Strife; in Matters of State, Government, Elections, Parliament, Ministry, and War, they may be worsted, turn'd out, and set by; and I do not make so much Matter of it *as some do* — For put in who you will, I tell you, and have long ago told you, They must all be Whigs in Management, and will be so, whether you will let them be call'd so or no —— But when you come to *Trade*, *Banks*, *Stocks*, and

and such Things as relate purely to Money or Credit, you had better let the Whigs alone, for they will always distance you there, and you do but lose Ground to meddle with them, and when you crow and boast of Victory too soon, you always see Cause to be asham'd of it.

It is plain, not *splitting* of all the little Votes and Stocks *you had*, not the appearance of the Great, Successful, and the Mob-exalted Dr. *Sacheverell*, lately become a Quallify'd Member, could carry the Point here; Bulk of Stock, *not Bauling*, will for ever carry the Point in such Cases — Dr. *Sacheverell* could raise no Mobbs here, or gain any Huzza's; it was reported, that some Body Enquir'd whether the Dr. had *any Stock?* ——— To which it was answer'd, YES, with this Addition by Way of *Pun*, that he had *more Stock* than any Body in the Company; tho' I Question that too, by one Linnen-Draping Voter of my Acquaintance.

But that which was more strange here, was, the Ladies, who appear'd at the Bank in great Number, as Voters, receiv'd no Impressions from the Lovely Dr. no melting Efficacy appear'd in his Face, to soften them into Tears ——— Whence some having Moraliz'd upon the Matter, say, The Ladies of the Bank may have more Stock than the Non-Resisting Ladies at *Westminster*, but have not so much *Tendress* or good Nature.

But after all, two Things I note here, that are serious enough in their Application.

1. *As once before*, here a Man had the Pleasure of seeing wise Men Acting Blindfold, and endeavouring to sink their own Estates.

2. Here we see the Foolishness of an Attempt to set Land and Trade at variance.

3. Here we see the Nation made happy amidst all our Divisions, by supporting Credit at a Time, when without it all Things would have fallen to the Ground.

Lastly, I observe, and wish our Friends on both Sides would remark it, here we may see the need we all have of *one another*, our Wealth, our Strength, our All, depends upon our being *one* Nation, with *one* Design; *Cursed be they that would divide us* — To talk of Land being a Fund without Trade, is to talk of the Blood being our Life without Food ——Neither could our Trade be a Fund without our Land, and *this makes it apparent*, that they who would separate these two, from their Dependance one upon another — *Attempts not the setting up of one*, but the pulling down of *both*; the Sum of the Matter is *in short* ——— Land is *a Fund* for Trade, and Trade is *a Fund* for Land; both together are the *Fund* of Credit, and all three *a Fund of Strength*, upon which we carry on the War ——— Let them that would break this Knot tell us, what they can Design, but to blow up the Strength of the Nation, by destroying the Essential and Vital Principle on which the Strength and Greatness of this Nation depends.

I have insisted something warmly upon the Folly of those that talk of Land being the Fund of our Wealth, and who are running down Trade, as if it had little or no Concern in our Prosperity ——— But I must do the Justice to say also, That our Trade would be very Lame without our Land — And I hint this to Anticipate the other Extreme, *viz.* Of our Men of Trade despising our Men of Land — Trade is the Child of Land, and yet Trade gives all its Inheritance to Land; Land supplies the Wooll for Manufacturing and Exportation, the Timber for Shipping, the Metals and Minerals, such as Lead, Iron, and Tin, speaking of *Britain* in particular; without these we could have no Trade, the Poor could not Work, the Ships could not Sail, the Merchants could have nothing to Export.

Again, Land supplies Stocks of Provisions at easie Rates, which Provisions govern

vern the Price of Labour, and enable the Poor to Work reaſonable, ſo as that their Food and their Wages bear a due Proportion to one another: If the great Quantity of Proviſions produc'd by the Land, did not ſupply the Nation plentifully at a reaſonable Price, the Poor could not Labour or Manufacture at any reaſonable Rate; this would make the Goods Manufactur'd here to be very Dear, and as Cheapneſs cauſes Conſumption, you would in Time, have no Trade.

Land then is the firſt Fund, the Original of Trade, that muſt be confeſs'd; but Trade is the Fund of Improvement, even to Land, and let us look no farther but into *Scotland*; Why is not their Land improv'd? Why not Enclos'd and Enrich'd? The Anſwer is, For want of Trade; Trade gives the People Stocks, and Stocks improve Land; Land and Trade, are like Land and Cattle; the Land feeds the Cattle, *that is certain*; but the Cattle again furniſh Dung and Manure which Enriches the Land; and thus the more Cattle the Land can feed, the more it will be enabled to feed, and it is a good Husband-Man's Proverb, That Stock upon Land makes good Land; if the Stock be fed off the Land, if the Hay and Fother is not expended upon the Land, the Land is immediately beggar'd and ſpoil'd; and this makes our Landlords contract with their Tenants, for ſpending the Hay and Straw of a Farm, upon the Farm.

Thus is it in Trade, our Land produces Materials for Trade, Manufacture and Employment of the Poor; if theſe Materials are carried Abroad to be Manufactur'd the Land is beggar'd, the Poor will fly away for Work to thoſe Countries where the Manufacture is carried, and the Proviſions by Conſequence will not be conſum'd; ſo the Milk, the Butter, the Cheeſe, the Beef, the Mutton will fall in Value, for want of a Market; Proviſions falling, Rents of Lands fall, and the Rents of Lands falling the Nation grows poor, *if Poverty can be ſaid to be a growth*, and ſo the Circle ends where we began.

Our Laws againſt Exportation of Wooll, and the Landord's Prohibiting the Tenant from carrying the Forrage away from the Farm, are founded upon the ſame equal Principle, and are equally Neceſſary; one would Ruin the Landlord, and t'other Ruin our Trade.

Land then ſupplies Trade with Originals of Manufacture, Trade ſupplies Land with Money, raiſes the Price of Proviſions, and by Conſequence the Rent of that Land.

Let any Man Examin this Caſe, and tell us, which can you part with from the general Proſperity; can your Trade be carried on without the Produce of the Land? How can Land vent her Produce, but by the help of Trade?——— And what can you do? Which of theſe two Eyes can you put out? Which of theſe Hands can you cut off? ——— Certainly it is Time for this Nation to be wiſe, and ſee what is their own Intereſt.

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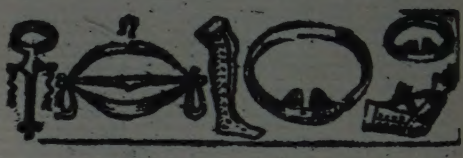

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